REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 24, 2007 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

By this Response, claims 25, 27, 30, 34-36, 39-40, 42, 44, 46, and 48 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention, and new claim 49 has been added. Claims 1-24 were previously cancelled. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 25-49 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 25, 42, 46, and 49 are independent claims.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending rejections to the claims for the reasons discussed below.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 25, 28-40, 42-44, and 46-47

The Office Action rejected claims 25, 28-40, 42-44, and 46-47 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable as obvious over Cidon, *et al.* (Control Mechanisms for High Speed Networks) ("Cidon") in view of Yum, *et al.* (Multicast Source Routing in Packet-Switched Networks) ("Yum"). The Office Action alleged that Cidon discloses every claim limitation recited in claim 25 with the exception of "the generation of

updating information." The Office Action cited Yum to cure the deficiencies of Cidon. Applicants respectfully traverse the claim rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claim 25 recites a method including determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from a network node to other nodes, detecting a network parameter change in a network node of the network, and distributing network parameter information indicating the network parameter change from the network node to the other nodes in accordance with the spanning tree. The network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send the respective updating information to all offspring nodes.

Claim 42 recites a network node for distributing a network parameter information to other network nodes of a transmission network. The network node is configured to detect a change in a network parameter related to the network node. The network node is further configured to distribute the network parameter information indicating the network parameter change towards the other network nodes in response to the detection and in accordance with a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from the network node to the other nodes. The network node is further configured to generate for each of its offspring nodes a respective updating information and to send the respective updating information to all offspring nodes..

Claim 46 recites a network node for distributing a network parameter information to other network nodes of a radio access network. The network node is configured to

receive a network parameter information from an upper node, to update a stored parameter information according to the received network parameter information, and to distribute the network parameter information to its offspring network nodes based on a branch information included in the network parameter information. The branch information is derived from a spanning tree routing topology. The network node is configured to update the branch information in the network parameter information before distributing the network parameter information to the other nodes.

As will be discussed below, Cidon in view of Yum fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 25, 28-40, 42-44, and 46-47, and therefore fails to provide the features discussed above.

Cidon is directed to packet-switched networks with a header-based routing system, Automatic Network Routing (ANR). Cidon discloses that ANR is a form of source routing where each packet contains an ANR header composed of a concatenation of several link identifiers. The packet header provides all the routing information necessary for the routing of the packet within each intermediate node along the path, allowing the packet to progress through the network. (Cidon, page 259, right-hand column)

Yum is directed to an address coding mechanism for multicast source routing packets in packet-switched networks. Yum discloses an algorithm for processing these address codes at intermediate output link adaptors, which involves only the recognition of a particular link label at the front part of the address code for implementation in hardware. Yum also discloses a Reverse Path address code that allows individual

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destination nodes to retrieve the reverse path address without search the topology database and invoking any route computation program. (Yum, Abstract; pages 1285 to 1287; Fig. 1-3)

Assuming *arguendo* that the teachings of Cidon and Yum could be combined, the combination of Cidon and Yum fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claim 25, and similarly in claims 42 and 46. Specifically, Cidon in view of Yum fails to disclose or suggest at least "wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes."

Rather, Cidon discloses that each desired route along the spanning tree structure may be set at an initial node by correspondingly modifying a header address. Hence, the topology update messages sent by the initial network node *are the same* for each neighbor node on the topology spanning tree. Moreover, the neighboring nodes merely *forward the received topology updated messages over the other tree links. (emphasis added)* (Cidon, page 263, left-hand column, last paragraph) Therefore, Cidon fails to disclose or suggest at least "...said network node is configured to <u>generate, for each of its offspring, a respective updating information</u> and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes" as recited in claim 25, and similarly in claims 42 and 46. Yum fails to cure the deficiencies of Cidon.

Accordingly, Cidon in view of Yum fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claim 25, and similarly in claims 42 and 46.

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Claims 28-40 are dependent upon claim 25. Claim 43-45 are dependent upon claim 42. Claim 47 is dependent upon claim 46. Therefore, claims 25, 28-40, 42-44, and 46-47 should be allowed for at least their dependence upon an allowable base claim, and for the limitations recited therein.

Claims 26-27, 41, 45, and 48

The Office Action rejected claims 26-27, 41, 45, and 48 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable as obvious over Cidon in view of Yum, and further in view of Neumiller, *et al.* (WO 00/70782) ("Neumiller").

As will be discussed below, Cidon in view of Yum, and further in view of Neumiller fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 26-27, 41, 45, and 48, and therefore fails to provide the features discussed above.

Cidon and Yum were discussed above. Neumiller is directed to a method and apparatus for performing selection within a communication system, where frames received by base stations are assigned a frame-quality indicator by the base station. The frame-quality indicator is continuously backhauled to a switch or a radio access network router for routing a selected frame accordingly. (Neumiller, page 3, lines 7-22)

As noted above, Cidon in view of Yum fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claim 25, and similarly in claims 42 and 46. Neumiller fails to cure the deficiencies of Cidon and Yum. Specifically, Neumiller fails to disclose or suggest at least "wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring

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nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes." Accordingly, Cidon in view of Yum, and further in view of Neumiller fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claim 25, and similarly in claims 42 and 46.

Claims 26-27 and 41 are dependent upon claim 25. Claim 45 is dependent upon claim 42. Claim 48 is dependent upon claim 46. Therefore, claims 26-27, 41, 45, and 48 should be allowed for at least their dependence upon an allowable base claim, and for the limitations recited therein.

New Claim 49

New claim 49 has its own scope, but contains recitations similar to those discussed above with regard to claims 25, 42, and 46. Specifically, Cidon in view of Yum, and further in view of Neumiller fails to disclose or suggest at least "wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes" as recited in claim 49.

Accordingly, Cidon in view of Yum, and further in view of Neumiller fails to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claim 49; therefore, claim 49 should be in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully submit that Cidon, Yum, and Neumiller fail to disclose or suggest every claim feature recited in claims 25-49. The distinctions previously noted are more than sufficient to render the claimed invention unobvious. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 25-49 be allowed, and the present application passed to issuance.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

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In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Additional Claim Fee Transmittal / Check No. <u>16979</u>